

Students' Association Executive Officers Meeting
Thursday, 7 September 2006, Canyon Complex Room 167
Present: Jake Meadows, Rachel Condie, Emily Schultz

Meeting began at 8AM. Thanks to Jake for low-carb, sugar free snacks (kidding, keep the glazed donut holes and OJ coming!).

First item of discussion: Food and Movie Night.

Not happening as soon as originally planned, due to some disorganization on the UNM-LA end (they have not yet held their students' association officers election). Event has been tabled until UNM-LA holds elections and more planning can then take place, hopefully in the mid-October timeframe.

Second item of discussion: FY06 Budget "Leftovers".

Jake's recent discussions with Carole indicate an FY06 budget surplus of around \$1000. Downfall: Money must be spent by September 15. Where are the funds? Jake thought they might be in the SA account at LANB. Rachel was not sure if she has signature authority on the account—an issue that should be addressed soon.

What should we do with the budget surplus, to get it to work for us most effectively until FY07 budget comes through?

Possibilities:

- Plug entire total into a Wal-Mart or Sam's Club gift card.
 - Does anyone have a Sam's Club Membership so that we might take advantage of that?
 - Would we be able to access cash from this gift card in the event that we needed funds for a facility rental or something similar?
 - Would getting cash back on a Wal-Mart or Sam's Club transaction to pay for such things as facility rental send up red flags? How can we legitimately use the card without hassle or problems?
 - Would not be able to do things like purchase pizzas for events.
- Purchase gift certificates or cards from multiple locations to cover food and event needs.
 - Example: allocate some funds for Pizza Hut gift certificates (maybe \$150 to \$200), and place the remainder into a Wal-Mart or Sam's Club card.
- Determine if we can re-allocate funds somewhere else for events in early FY07, so that facility fees won't have to be scrounged up in a sketchy way. Can this be done through some clever budget maneuvering?

Third item of discussion: Events for Remainder of Calendar Year 06.

- September 27: SA Tour of Materials Recycling Facility (MRF), 10AM-12PM. Mad credit to Jake for organizing this. He plans to send out

invitations to the LANL students in a couple of weeks. Invite will include a map to alleviate confusion and parking chaos.

- Pizza/Ice Cream/Movie night will occur, but postponed until mid-Octoberish. Thursdays seem like a good day to hold the event Rachel is this event's champion
- SA Open Meeting shall follow shortly thereafter the Pizza/Ice Cream/Movie Night, within a week of the event. This will allow us to 1) advertise the meeting at the event, 2) discuss the event's successes and shortcomings at the meeting, and 3) be able to incorporate themes from the Annual Student Survey into the meeting agenda and SA yearly goals.
- International Holiday Potluck will occur in late November or very early December. Jake brought up the idea of hosting it at Pajarito Ski Lodge. Prices for full rental of the lodge are \$150/hour with a 2 hour minimum. Emily is currently championing this event and will look into renting maybe a portion of the facility for a more reasonable price.

Fourth item of discussion: Bylaws Revisions.

Kitty mailed bylaws revisions to all SA exec officers. Rachel sent her additional comments via email back to Kitty. Jake and Emily really haven't yet taken a close look at the revised version but will before the next meeting.

Fifth item of discussion: SA's Involvement in Student Housing Assistance.

Carole recently sent an email to saexec requesting a search for a book (and potential purchase of said book), possibly titled "The renter's guide: A handbook for leasing." Some issues have recently arisen and such a resource might be helpful to LANL students seeking local housing.

A brief discussion on housing challenges followed. It was agreed that two of the largest roadblocks in obtaining LA housing are price and availability. But where exactly does SA fit into the housing dilemma?

SA can certainly serve as a housing resource. However, we don't want to be held responsible for a student's pain and suffering if they can't find housing. Emily said that a disclaimer should be placed clearly on the SA Housing page, stating something to this effect (language must be modified, of course):

"Housing has in the past been, and continues to be, at a premium in the townsite of Los Alamos and within the surrounding communities. Rentals are limited and are taken quickly. Sometimes nearby available rentals require a short commute and therefore a means of transportation. SA has made great efforts to provide incoming LANL students with a centralized and updated resource for housing options in the greater Los Alamos area through this web site. In no way is SA or LANL responsible for finding housing for individual students or groups of students, nor for arranging transport to their location of employment from their personal residence."

Sixth item of discussion: SA FY07 Budget and Events.

Rachel must compile and line-item the FY07 budget by the end of this month. Carole likely has cost estimates per event for previous years, and the FY07 budget could be based upon that (with certain things rearranged for our different variety of events). **This issue should remain in open, active email discussions until our next meeting.** Please consider an event this year that you would like to champion, and rough out a budget and provide it to Rachel. Discuss via email and we can fine-tune at the next SA Exec meeting.

What winter events could we offer?

Possibilities include a fun outing with sledding, or ice skating in LA Canyon. We will move our large philanthropy event to Feb or March to accommodate a fun winter event.

New Business: Want or Need a Change of Scenery?

Jake brought up a refreshing idea of possibly moving the SA Exec meeting location to elsewhere. This could or could not be a permanent move depending on everyone's opinions. He suggested Trinity Beverage Company, where the possibility of free appetizers exists (Yum). It would be a nice change of pace from Canyon Complex and could encourage some fun discussion in a different atmosphere.

Bring your opinions to the next SA exec meeting.

Next Meeting: Time, Date, Place

Monday, September 25, 8AM, rm. 162B, Canyon Complex

If you have agenda items, please pass them along via the saexec listserv

Meeting adjourned 8:45 AM

Respectfully Submitted 7 September 2006

Emily Schultz
Secretary, LANL Students' Association